THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi to Meerut sections is having four-lane/more than four-lane standard carriageway. Meerut to Satpuli is having a length of 119 kms of two lane, 57 kms of intermediate lane and 16 kms. of single lane. Beyond Satpuli, up to Srinagar, the road width is of intermediate lane in 24 kms. and single lane in 55 kms. Widening to two-lane has been sanctioned for a length of 12 kms. out of 16 kms of single lane from Meerut to Satpuli of NH-119. Further, out of 55 kms of single lane between Satpuli to Srinagar, the widening to two-lane in 10 kms length have been sanctioned and also there is a proposal for widening to-lane in 10 kms length during the current financial year.

(c) The development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and widening of balance single/intermediate lane section between Meerut and Srinagar depends upon the traffic density and availability of funds. The sanctioned works of two laning of NH-119 are targeted to be completed by March, 2009.

Indian deported from Arabian countries

* 106. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Indian workers have been deported to India from some

Arabian countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to ensure that Indian workers are not harassed?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir. Some Arab countries from time to time deport foreign workers inducing Indians due to various reasons. During the year 2007, the number of such workers depot .ed/ECs (Emergency Certificates) issued are as under from Gulf countries:

Year	Kuwait	Bahrain	UAE	Saudi Arabia	Oman	Qatar
2007 (till Oct. 07)	8234	1481	40088	28904	1086	2050

(b) Such deportation normally are done on the grounds of non-possession of valid visas/ resident permits, violation of local rules and regulations etc. Sometimes, amnesty is also declared for workers overstaying illegally and the overstayers are allowed to regularize their stay or leave the country during the notified period without penalty or punishment.

(c) (i) The Indian Mission organize smooth issue of Emergency Certificates by making special drives involving the local Indian communities. The complaints of ill treatment, harassment, breach of contracts etc., received from the Indian workers are taken up by the Mission with the sponsors/employers, Labour Department and local police authorities for appropriate action.

(ii) To protect the various rights of the workers, the Ministry has also entered into bilateral labour agreements with the UAE and Kuwait. These MoUs provide for a Joint Committee consisting of representatives of both countries to meet periodically to disucss and resolve grievances of workers. An additional protocol has also been signed with Qatar recently. MoU with Malaysia and Oman has been initialed. Dialogue has been initiated for similar agreements with KSA and Bahrain.